

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 14, please amend the first two paragraphs as follows:

The first portion 54 of the cap 48, the first surface 50 of the upright wall 46, and the horizontal wall 44 cooperatively define a horizontally opening, U-shaped receptacle 58. The horizontal wall 44 has a flat, downwardly facing surface 60 ~~that~~ and a flat upwardly facing surface 62. The surface 62 resides in a first reference plane fully between the upright wall 46 and a free end 63 thereof. The surface 60 can be placed facially against the upwardly facing surface 15 of the support 16 and suitably fixed thereto by a means, indicated at 64. The fixing means 64 might be separate fasteners, an adhesive, integrating structure on the support 16, etc.

The receptacle 58 accepts the covering layer 12. While the nature of the covering layer 12 is not critical, this receptacle configuration is particularly suitable for receiving the edge portion 66 of a carpet layer 68 that can be directed up to and nested in the U-shaped receptacle 58 by movement relative to the transition strip 10 parallel to the reference plane within which the upwardly facing surface 62 resides without deforming the cap 48. The free edge 70 of the carpet layer 68 may abut, or be placed in close proximity to, the first surface 50 of the upright wall 46. The first portion 54 of the cap 48 covers the edge portion 66 so that a finished appearance results without requiring a precise shaping and dimensioning of the free edge 70 of the carpet layer 68. At the same time, the free edge 70 of the carpet layer 68 is not exposed to traffic, and thus not prone to detrimentally shedding or unraveling, as might otherwise initiate progressive deterioration of the carpet layer 70 over time.

Please amend the paragraph spanning pages 14 and 15 as follows:

The first portion 54 of the cap 48 has a cantilevered construction with a first straight section 72 that departs from the upright wall 46 at substantially a right angle thereto. The first section 72 merges into a second, straight section 74 that extends downwardly from the first section 72 at an angle α , which is on the order of 15° , and preferably in the range of 10° - 20° . The section 74 terminates at a rounded free end 76. The free end 76 is rounded in such a manner that there are no sharp corners or edges at the free end 76 or in the section 54. The precise value for the angle α is not critical and can be outside of the above-stated range, at either end thereof. The angled orientation of the section 74 is desirable as it facilitates a captive connection of a reconfigurable cover layer, such as the depicted carpeting layer 68. At the same time, this construction does not present an edge that is likely to being tripped upon as the transition strip 18 is traversed.